



*Historic Districts: Using Alabama  
Historical Commission's Map Layer  
Michelle Fuller, ACA  
August 5, 2021*





## *Points of Discussion*

- Historical Properties
  - Definition
- Alabama Historical Commission
  - Who are they?
- National Register of Historic Places
- Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage
- Map Layer Demonstration



## *Historical Properties*

- Section 40-8-1
  - CLASS III. All agricultural, forest, and residential property, and historic buildings and sites, 10 percent.
  - (2) HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND SITES. Regardless of the use to which such property is put, all buildings or structures (i) determined eligible by the state historic preservation officer for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; or (ii) located in a registered historic district and certified by the United States Secretary of the Interior as being of historic significance to the district.



## *Alabama Historical Commission*

- In the Code
  - 41-9-242 Purpose
  - 41-9-249 Powers and Duties
- State Historic Preservation Office
- Two Fields of Endeavor
  - Preservation and promotion of state-owned historic sites
  - Statewide programs to assist people, groups, towns, and cities with local preservation activities



## *National Register of Historic Places*

- Nation's official list of cultural resources, 50 years of age or older, worthy of preservation
- Only recognizes a place's historic character and does not place restrictions on the property
- Includes districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant to American history
- List is maintained by the National Park Service



## *National Register of Historic Places in Alabama*

- Edmund Pettus Bridge
- USS Alabama
- Saturn V Space Vehicle
- Cloverdale Historic District-Montgomery
- Cullman Downtown Commercial Historic District



## *Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage*

- Listing of historic resources in Alabama, 40 years of age or older, that are worthy of preservation
- May be of national, state, or local significance
- Designation is honorary and carries no restrictions or financial incentives
- Does not carry automatic listing on the National Register of Historic Places



## *Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage*

- Alabama Theatre Pipe Organ
- Dr. Pepper Bottling Plant-Georgiana
- Malbis Plantation Historic District
- Founders Halls, Athens State University (NRHP)
- Desoto Caverns





## *AHC Historic Preservation Map*

- 46 out of 67 counties have been plotted
- Research Tool
- Could be outdated
- The absence of a property from the database does not imply that the unidentified property lacks historical or architectural importance



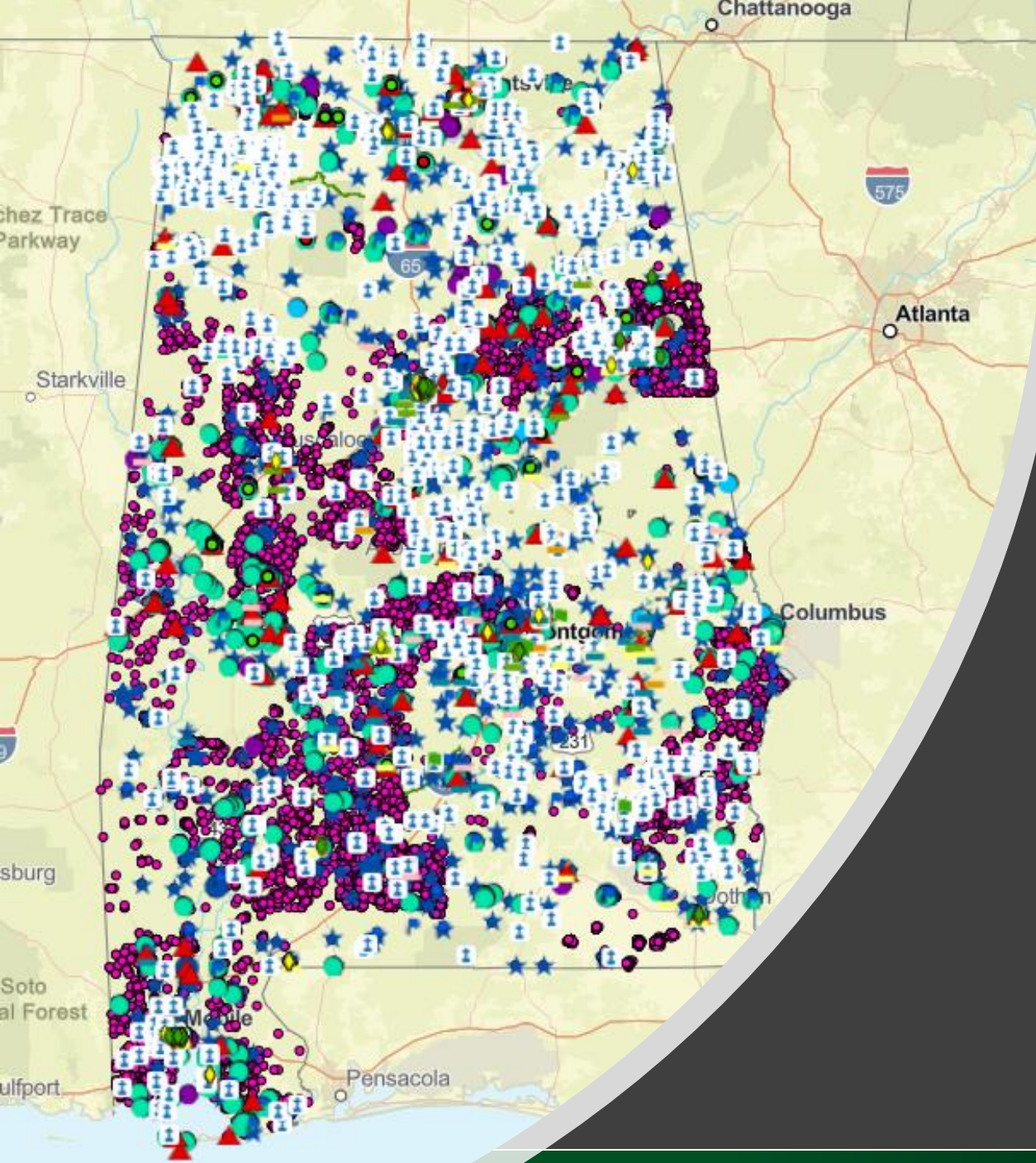
## *AHC Historic Preservation Map (cont.)*

- Layers
  - Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage
  - Historic African American Schools
  - Black Heritage Council Markers
  - The National Register of Historic Places
  - Preservation Easements



## *AHC Historic Preservation Map (cont.)*

- Layers
  - Alabama Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program
  - AHC County Surveys
  - Alabama Historic Cemetery Register
  - Places in Peril
  - AHC Historic Markers




# *AHC Map Demonstration*





← → ↻ 🔒 https://ahc.alabama.gov

ADOR



ALABAMA  
**HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION**  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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**Protect & Preserve**

**Historic Preservation Programs**


- Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage
- Alabama Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program
- Architectural Programs
- Black Heritage Council
- Cemetery Program
- CLG/Certified Local Government
- Easement Program
- Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit
- Historical Marker Program
- Historic Preservation Map**
- National Register of Historic Places
- Places in Peril
- State Historic Preservation Plan

**Archaeology**

- Archaeology Programs
- Clotilda
- Maritime Heritage Program
- Archaeology Month

**106 Regulatory Review**

- 106 Program





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Legend

Alabama\_State\_Historic\_Tax\_Credit\_Public\_View  
AL\_Tax\_Credit\_Complete\_Projects

Alabama\_State\_Historic\_Tax\_Credit\_Public\_View  
AL\_Tax\_Credit\_Active\_Projects

Alabama\_State\_Historic\_Tax\_Credit\_Public\_View  
AL\_Tax\_Credit\_Ranked\_Projects

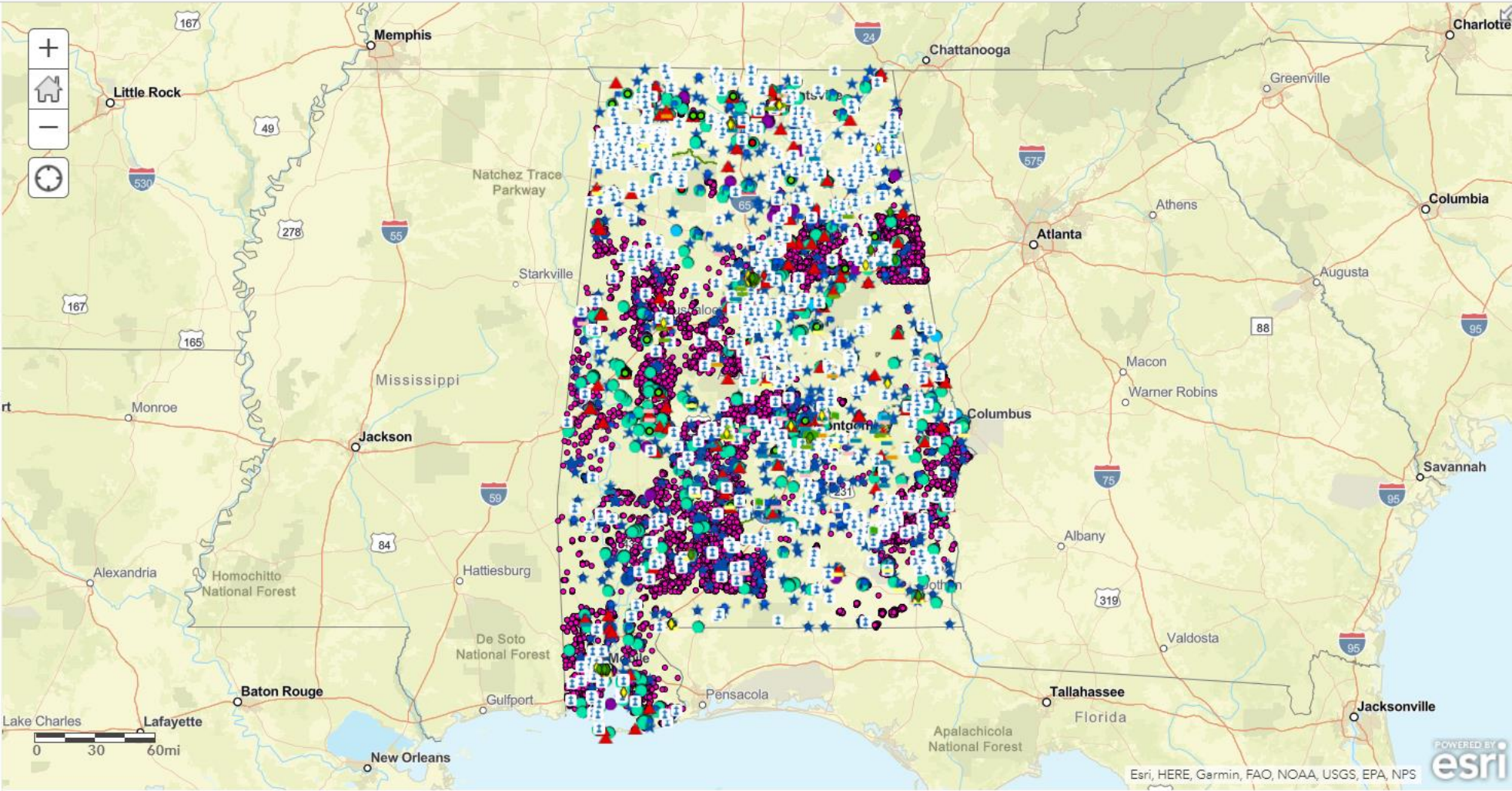
Black\_Heritage\_Council\_Historical\_Markers\_Pub  
- BHC\_Markers

Historically\_African\_American\_Schools\_Public\_Vi

- Equalization School
- HBCU
- Other
- Rosenwald School
- Rosenwald and Equalization School
- <all other values>

Alabama\_Cemetery\_Register\_Public\_View

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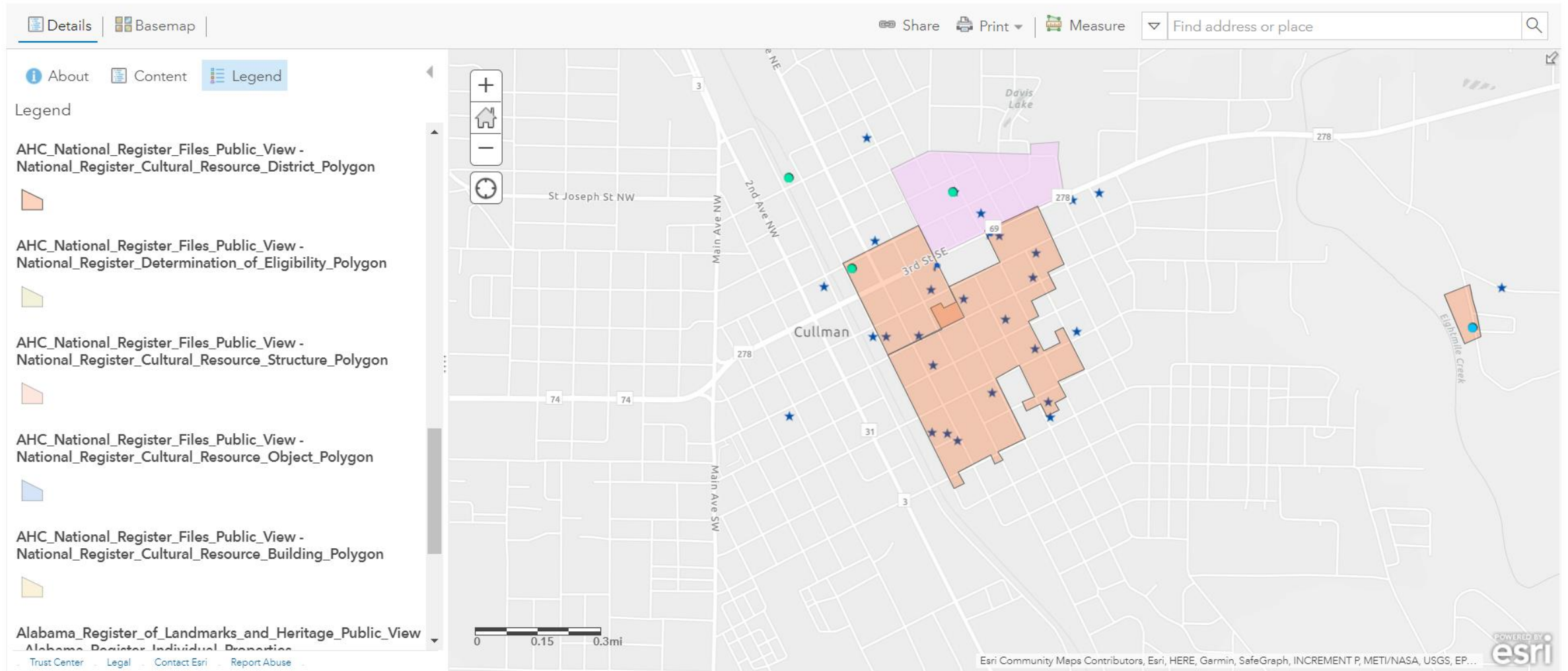


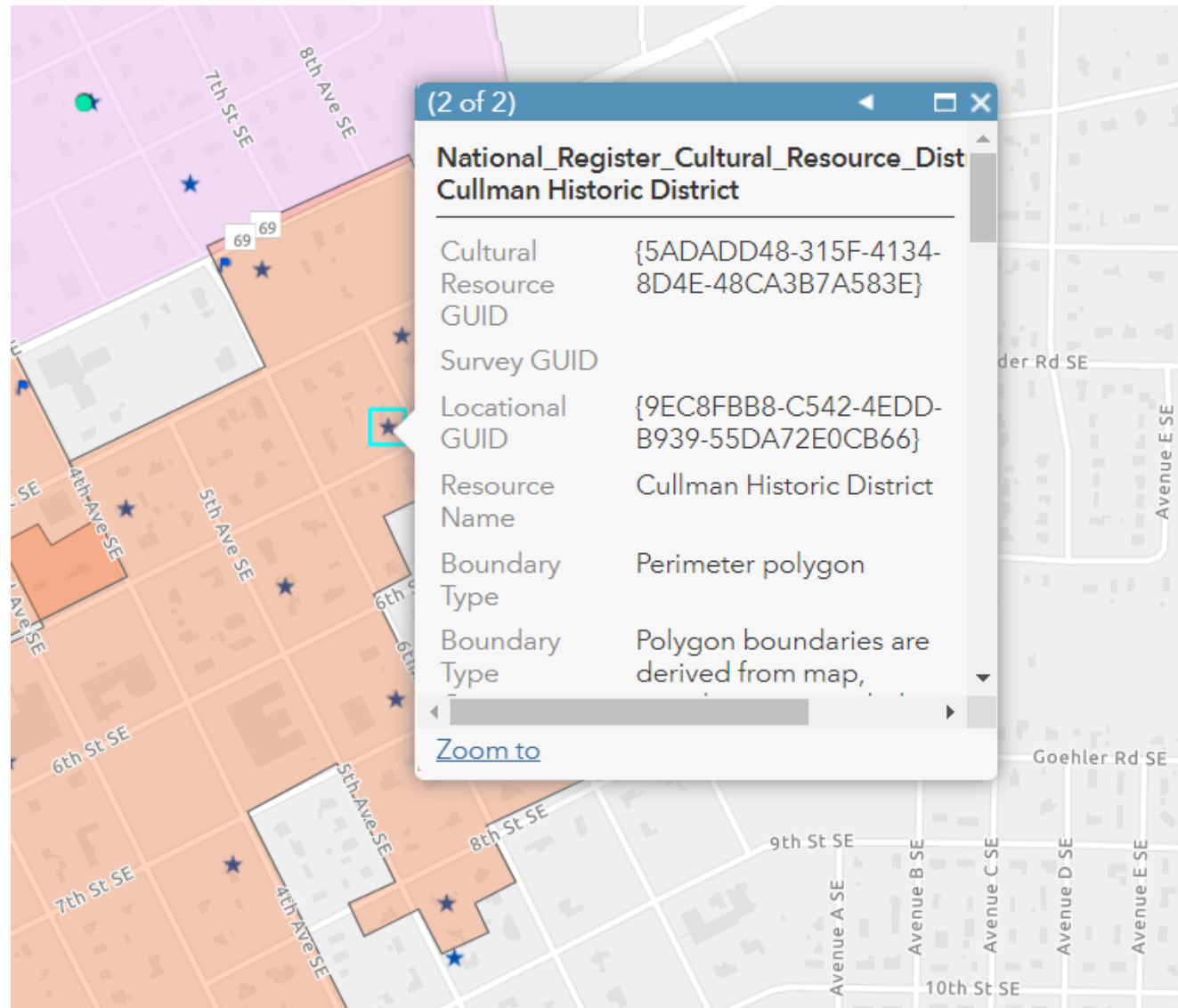




ArcGIS ▾ Alabama Historical Commission - Historic Preservation Map Initiative

[Open in new Map Viewer](#) [Modify Map](#) [Sign In](#)









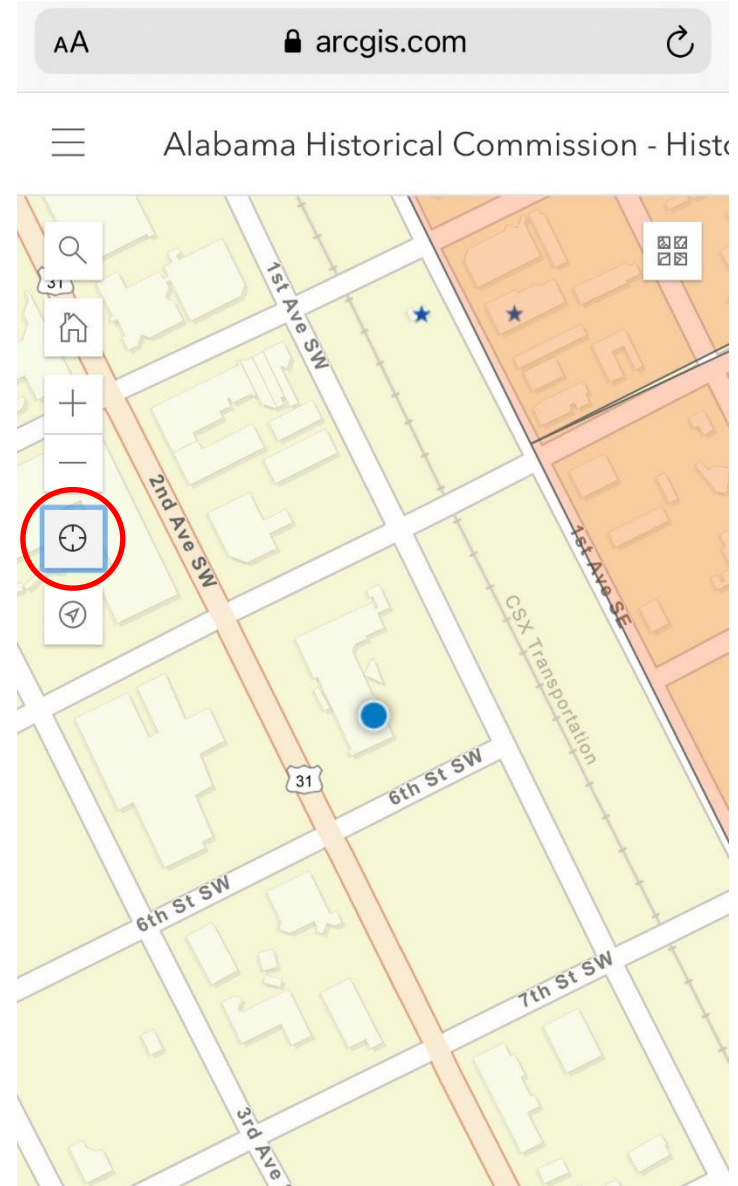
## *Link to Historic Preservation Map*





## Appraisal Use in the Field:

- To enable location on a mobile device, click the “crosshairs.”
- This will allow the appraiser to identify the location of the property.
- Is the parcel in question in the Historic District?
- Has an improvement been torn down?

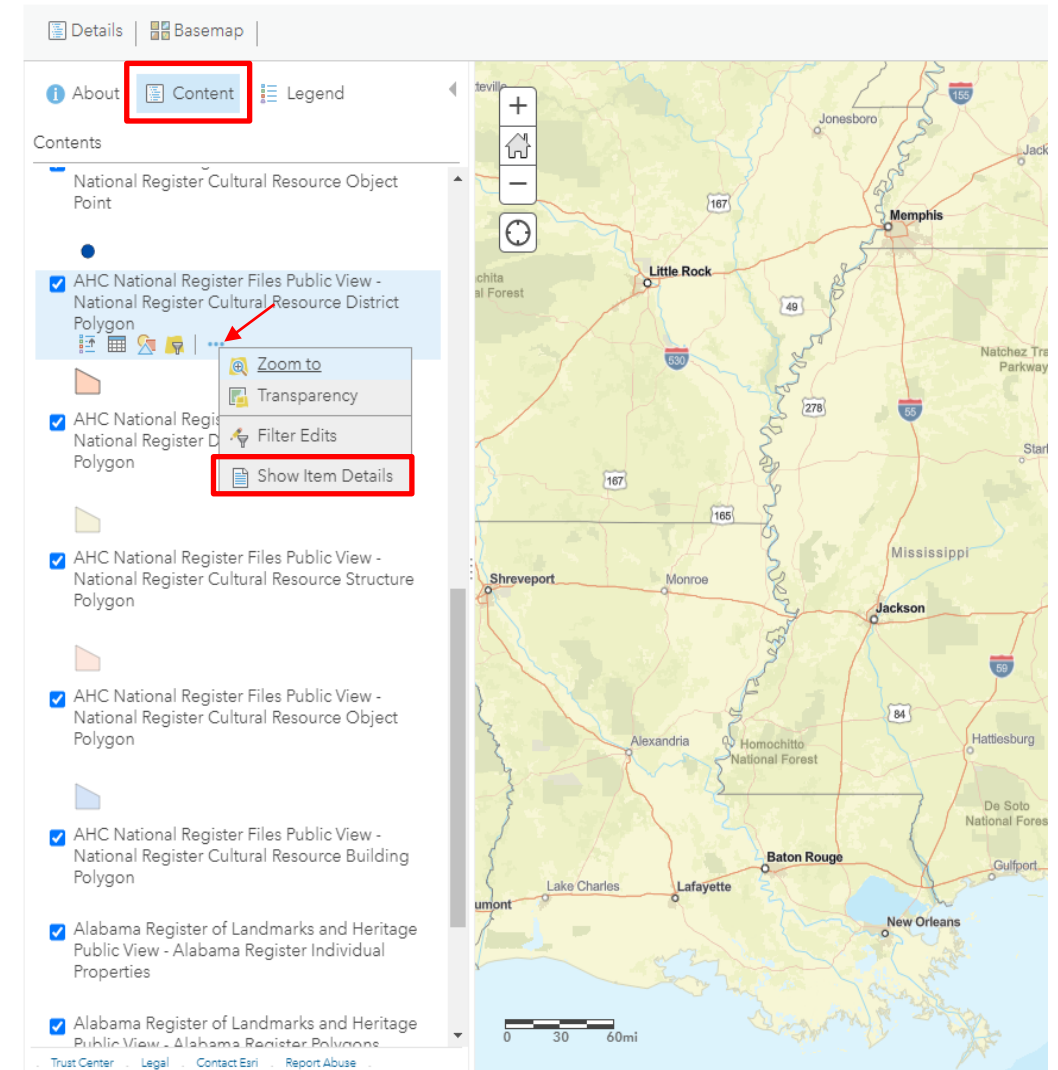




## *Import AHC Layer into ArcMap*

1. Click **Content**, then scroll to “AHC National Register Files...”
2. Click **More options [...]**, then select **Show Item Details**

ArcGIS ▾ Alabama Historical Commission - Historic Preservation Map Initiative



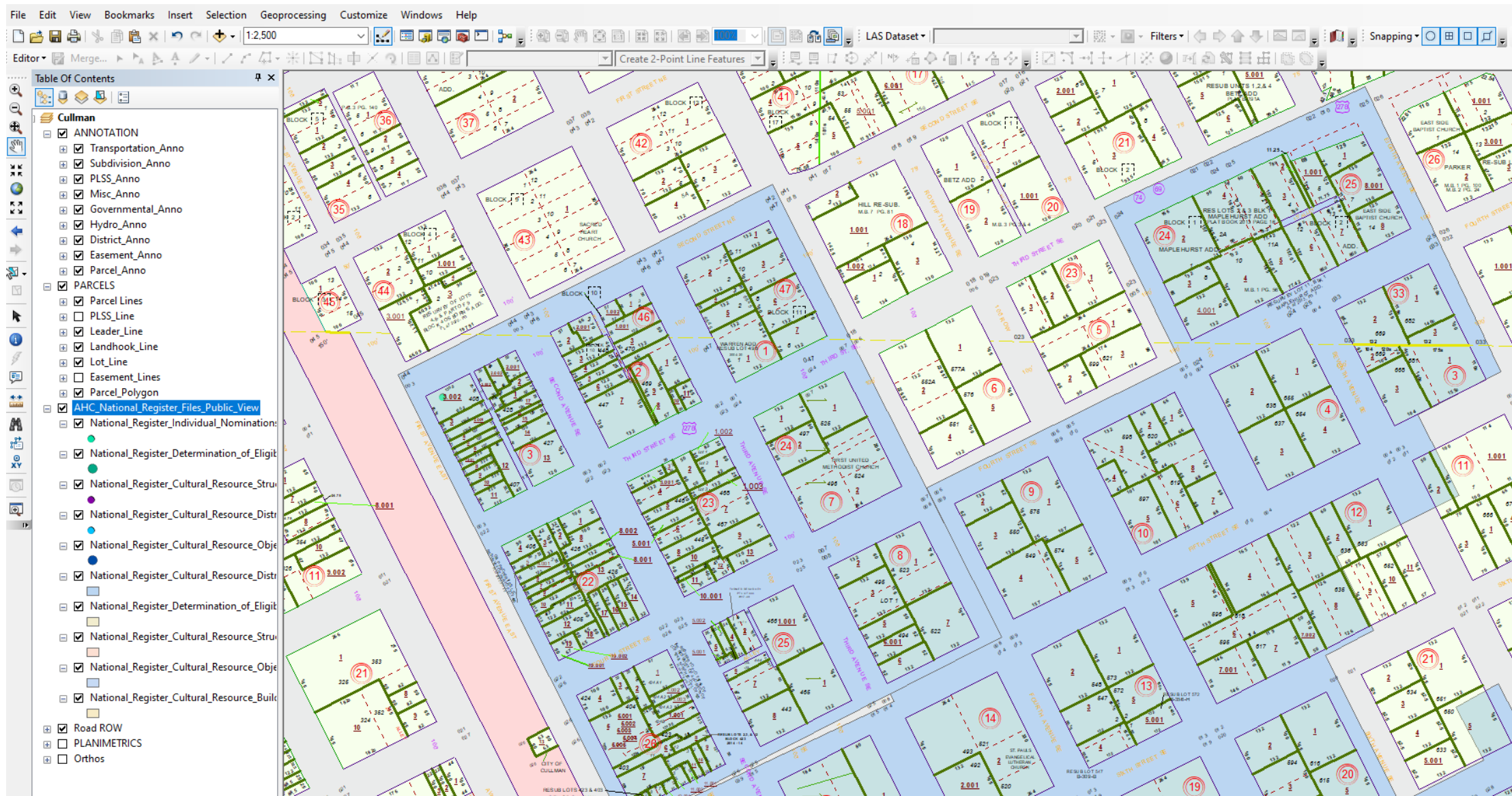


## Download ArcGIS Portal Item

By selecting **Show Item Details**, a new browser tab will open to show the metadata of the layer. Such information includes a description, author, terms of use, and field parameters.

1. Click **Open in ArcGIS Desktop**
2. Open ArcMap, and view the .mxd file used for appraisal analysis
3. After the portal item (.pitem) downloads, open the file either from your browser or File Explorer

The screenshot shows the ArcGIS Portal interface for the item 'AHC\_National\_Register\_Files\_Public\_View'. The page has tabs for 'Overview', 'Data', and 'Visualization'. The 'Overview' tab is active, displaying a map thumbnail, the item title, author 'eric.sipes', creation and update dates, and view count. A description of the National Register of Historic Places in Alabama is provided. On the right, a dropdown menu for 'Open in Map Viewer' is open, with 'Open in ArcGIS Desktop' highlighted by a red circle. Other options include 'Open in ArcMap' and 'Open in ArcGIS Pro'. Below the map, a file named 'item.pitem' is shown with a context menu open, listing options: 'Open', 'Always open files of this type', 'Show in folder', and 'Cancel'. The right sidebar contains details such as source, data last updated, size, and tags.







## *Link to National Register Listing for Alabama*





## *Link to Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage*





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